

FINAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF AUDIT FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING

The final report of the board of audit for the government of the District of Columbia.

APRIL 19, 1876.—Referred to the Committee for the District of Columbia and ordered to be printed.

To the Senate and House of Representatives :

I have the honor to transmit herewith to Congress the final report of the board of audit, constituted by section 6 of the act "for the government of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes," approved June 20, 1874, and abolished by joint resolution approved March 14, 1876; and to call your attention to the statements therein presented.

U. S. GRANT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, April 19, 1876.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
April 19, 1876.

The PRESIDENT :

In submitting a final report of the board of audit, constituted by section 6 of the act of June 20, 1874, "for the government of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes," the undersigned take leave to say that Mr. Carpenter, the Second Comptroller of the United States Treasury, did not become a member of the board of audit until January 24, 1876, and that the board ceased auditing and certifying claims against the District January 31, 1876, in conformity to what appeared to be the prevailing opinion of the Senate at that date, and what subsequently appeared to be the concurrent opinion of the two Houses of Congress.

Prior to the 24th of January, 1876, Mr. Carpenter had no knowledge of the proceedings of the board; and for the few days of subsequent action, that action conformed to the precedent rules of the board, and now all that remains to be done is to report the general results which have been reached. To do this we need not state what has already been reported by the board and now constitutes a part of the public records.

The following contains, we believe, a correct statement of the number and amount of claims certified by the board of audit in each class:

		Amount.
Class 1. Number of certificates,	912.....	\$1, 035, 388 24
Class 2. Number of certificates,	1,955.....	4, 390, 600 94
Class 3. Number of certificates,	7.....	1, 897 06
Class 4. Number of certificates,	2,638 (p. 248) <i>7,156,178/3</i> 24/34	7, 156, 105 73
Class 5. Number of certificates,	655.....	385, 869 25
Class 6. Number of certificates,	4,577.....	151, 540 88
Class 7. Number of certificates,	2,021.....	827, 625 68
Class 8. Number of certificates,	5,639.....	552, 884 79
William Bowen,	1.....	1, 463 58
Total certificates,	18, 405.....	14, 503, 376 15
Deduct bonds returned and canceled.....		1, 900 00
Total amount of certificates.....		14, 501, 476 15

Of the certificates issued upon audit, as above stated, the following have not been delivered, but remain with the papers turned over to the Commissioners of the District, under the joint resolution of March 14, 1876, viz:

	Amount.
Class 2.....	\$32, 281 31
Class 4.....	40, 918 35
Class 5.....	4, 005 70
Class 6.....	4, 817 84
Class 7.....	11, 120 09
Class 8.....	1, 444 98
Total.....	94, 588 27

There have also been audited and allowed, but retained in—

Class 4, various sums, amounting to.....	✓ \$104, 810 34
Accounts audited but not certified in class 4, amounting to.....	✓ 29, 018 92
Claims in class 4, <u>not acted upon</u> , amounting to.....	✓ 43, 610 57
Claims not acted upon in class 2, amounting to.....	589 29
Claims not acted upon in class 5, amounting to.....	314 00
Claims not acted upon in class 8, amounting to.....	4, 938 48
Amount audited but not certified, in class 6.....	113, 954 14
	297, 235 74

This sum being added to the amount audited and certified, makes a total of \$14,800,611.89 as the debt of the District, which has come to the board of audit and which is apparently correct; not, however, including the former funded debt, nor the cost of work done but not reported by the Commissioners nor engineer of the District to the board of audit, and of which the board have no official knowledge.

The board of audit was constituted by section 6 of the act of Congress approved June 20, 1874, continued indefinitely by joint resolution approved December 21, 1874, and abolished by joint resolution approved March 14, 1876.

On the expiration of thirty days, namely, April 13, 1876, the board of audit, pursuant to the terms of the last-named resolution, turned over all books, papers, and records which had come to their possession, and not then in the custody of the House Committee on the District of Columbia, to the Commissioners of said District, and thereby closed their official connection with the same.

Respectfully submitted.

R. W. TAYLER,
First Comptroller.
C. C. CARPENTER,
Second Comptroller.